



(12) **United States Patent**
Porter et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,345,580 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **May 24, 2016**

(54) **PROSTHETIC HAVING A MODULAR SOFT
TISSUE FIXATION MECHANISM**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **14/269,592**

(22) Filed: **May 5, 2014**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2014/0296986 A1 Oct. 2, 2014

Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 13/085,538, filed on Apr.
13, 2011, now Pat. No. 8,715,356.

(60) Provisional application No. 61/323,666, filed on Apr.
13, 2010.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

A61F 2/32 (2006.01)

A61F 2/40 (2006.01)

A61F 2/08 (2006.01)

A61F 2/38 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **A61F 2/40** (2013.01); **A61F 2/0811**
(2013.01); **A61F 2/32** (2013.01); **A61F 2/3804**
(2013.01); **A61F 2002/0888** (2013.01); **A61F**
2002/4011 (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC A61F 2/0811; A61F 2/3804; A61F 2/40;
A61F 2/32; A61F 2/36; A61F 2/38; A61F
2/3859; A61F 2002/2853

USPC 623/19.11–19.14, 22.4–22.43, 23.11,
623/23.15, 23.39

See application file for complete search history.

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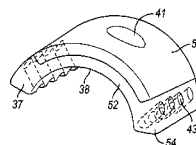
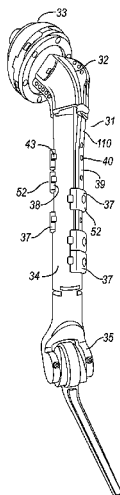
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for coupling soft tissue to a pros-
thetic is disclosed. Soft tissue attachment pads having porous
metal attachment regions and suture accepting holes are
selectively positioned onto an implantable prosthetic to pro-
vide coupling locations.

7 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



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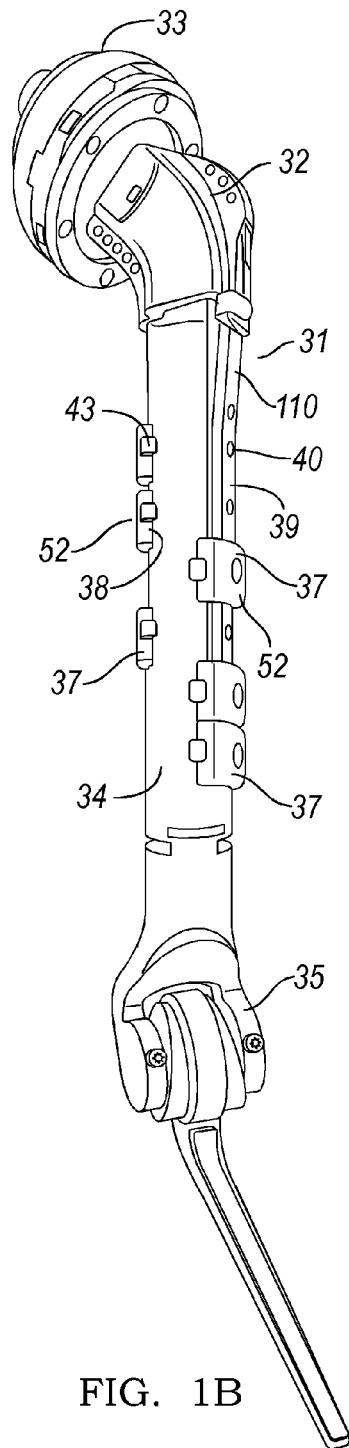


FIG. 1B

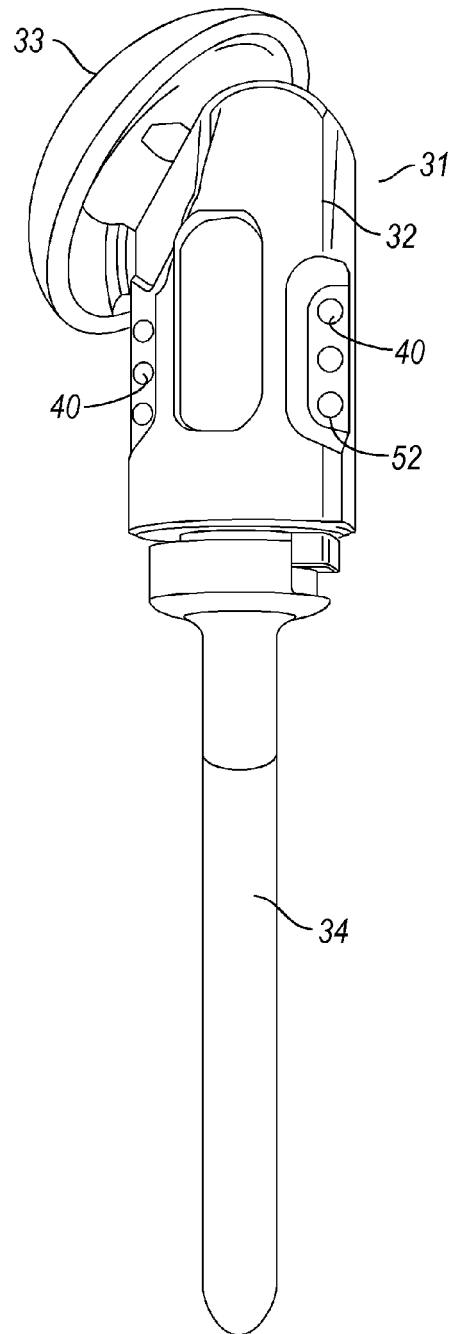


FIG. 1A

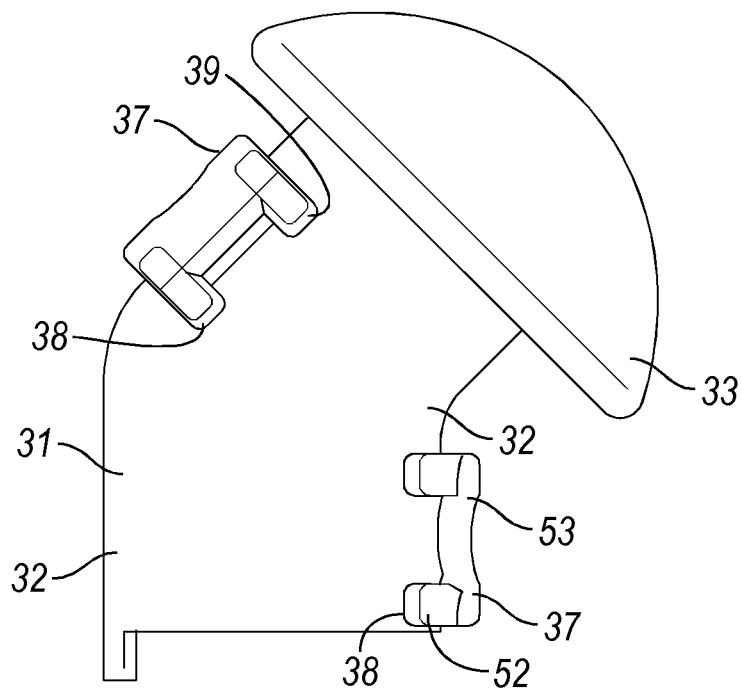


FIG. 2

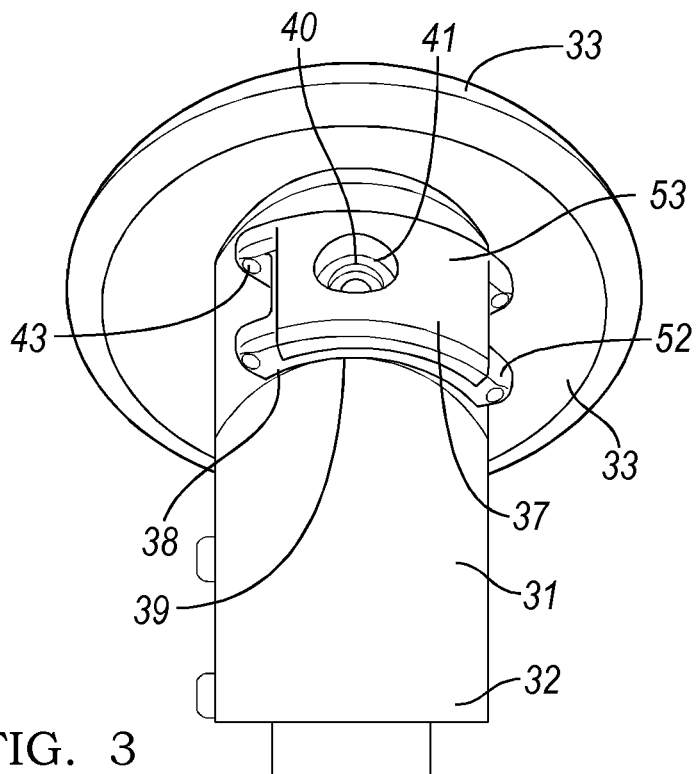


FIG. 3

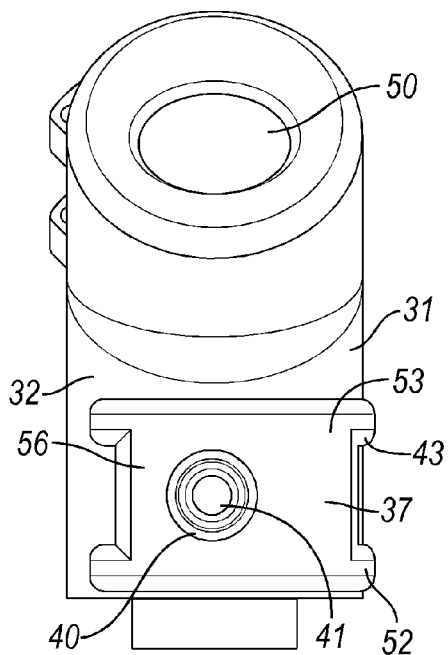


FIG. 4

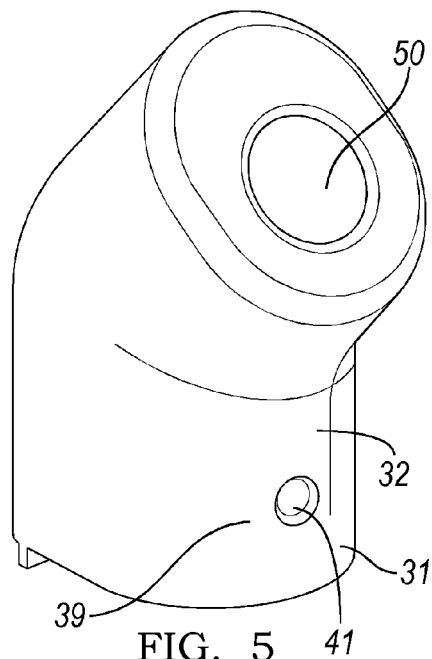


FIG. 5

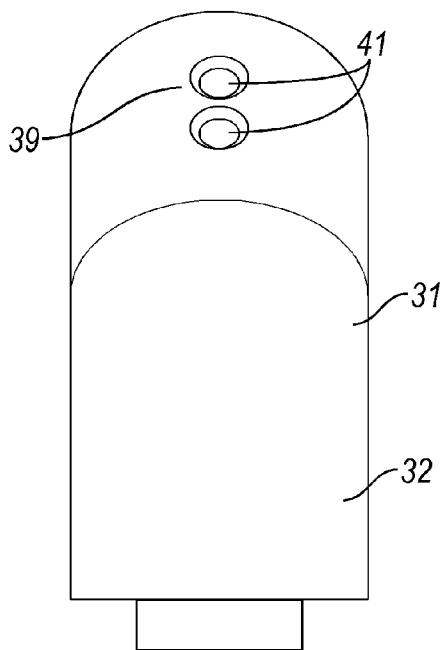


FIG. 6

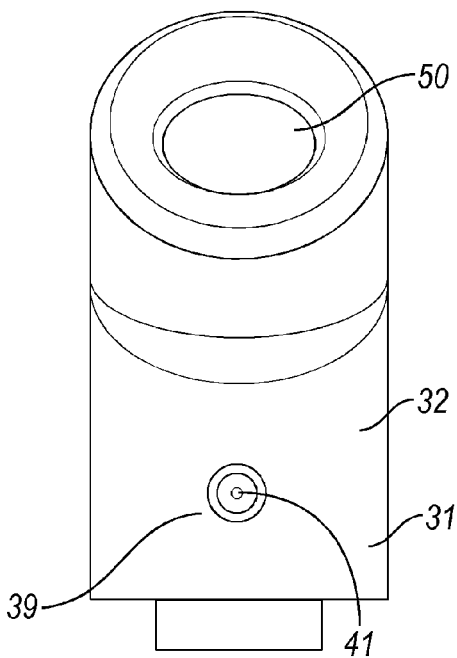
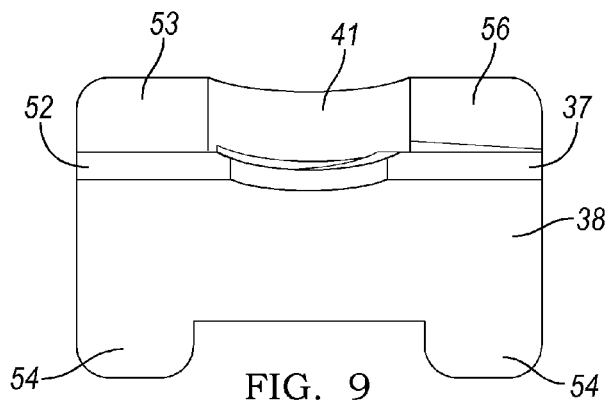
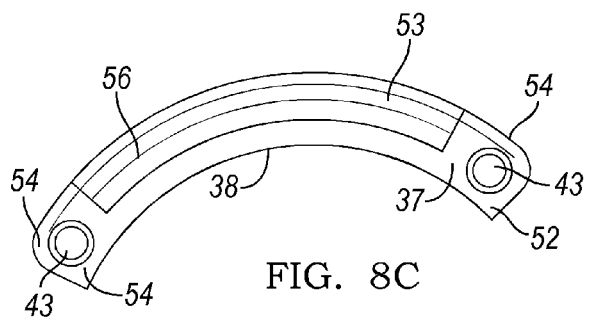
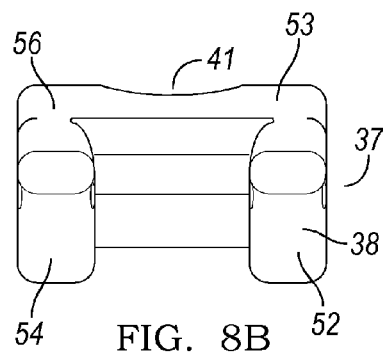
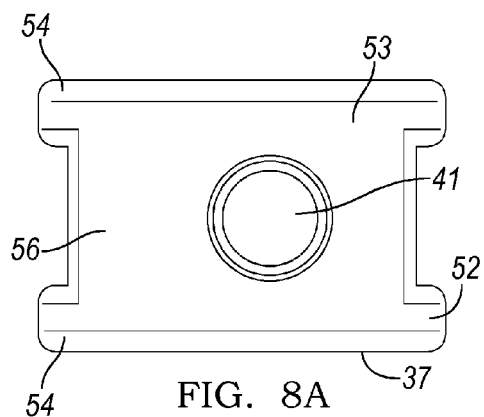
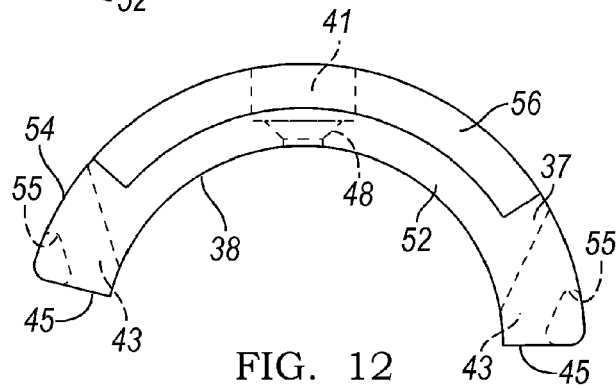
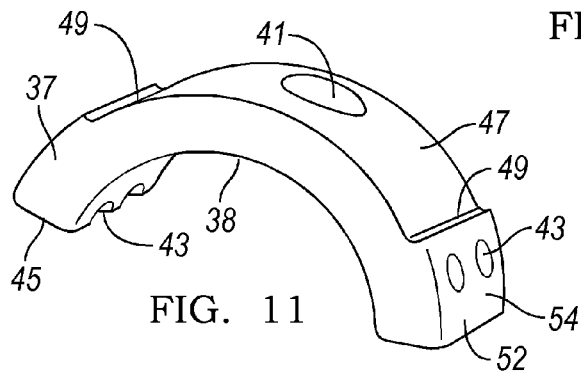
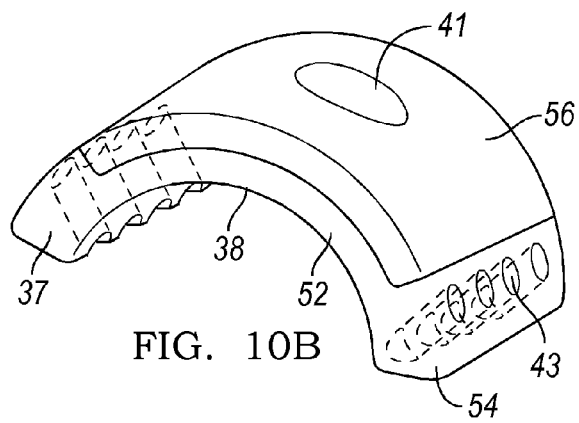
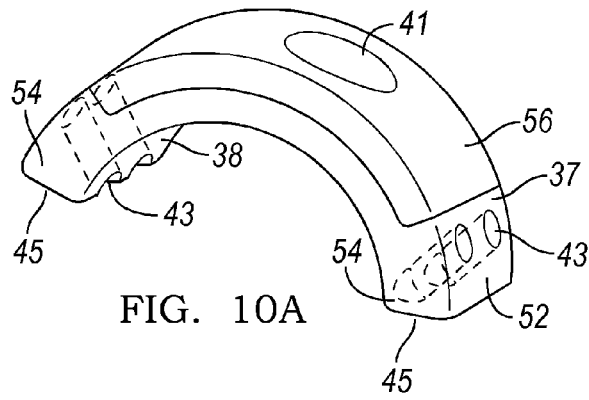


FIG. 7





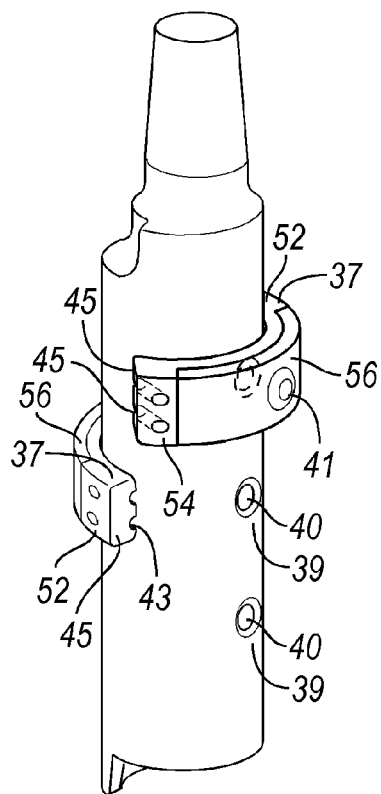


FIG. 13

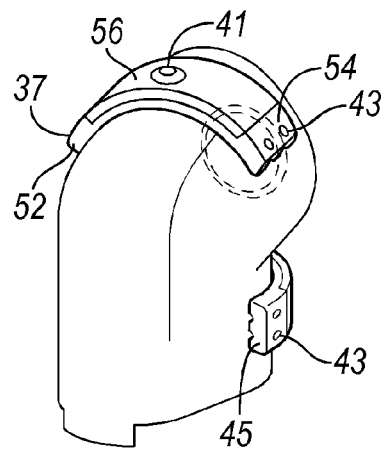


FIG. 14

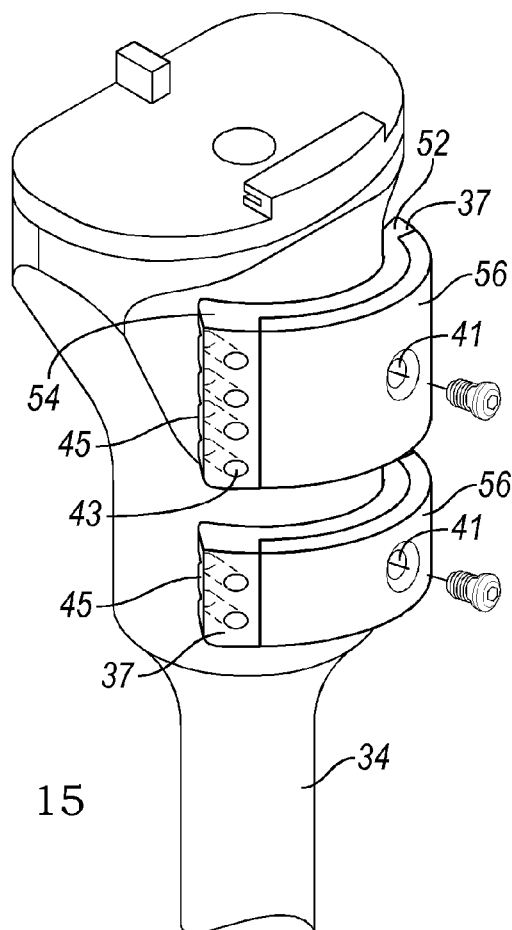


FIG. 15

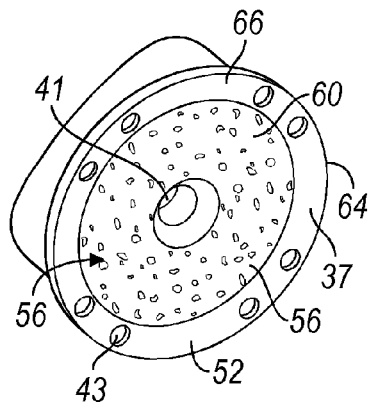


FIG. 16

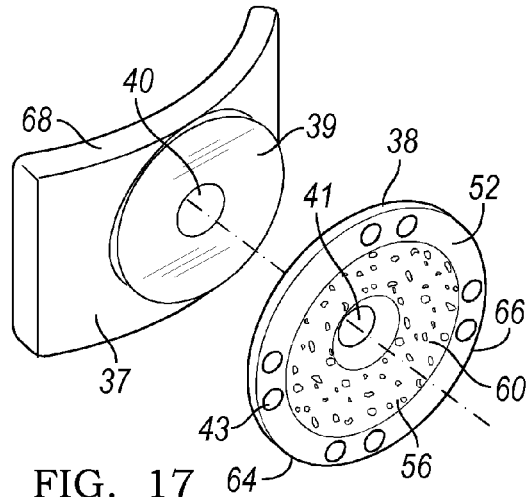


FIG. 17

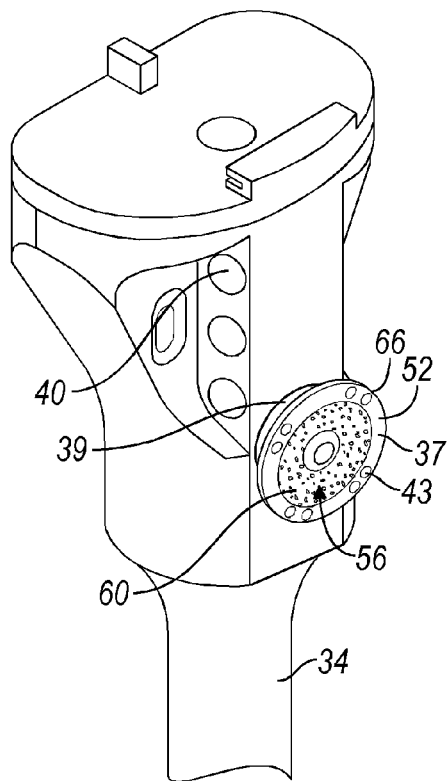


FIG. 18B

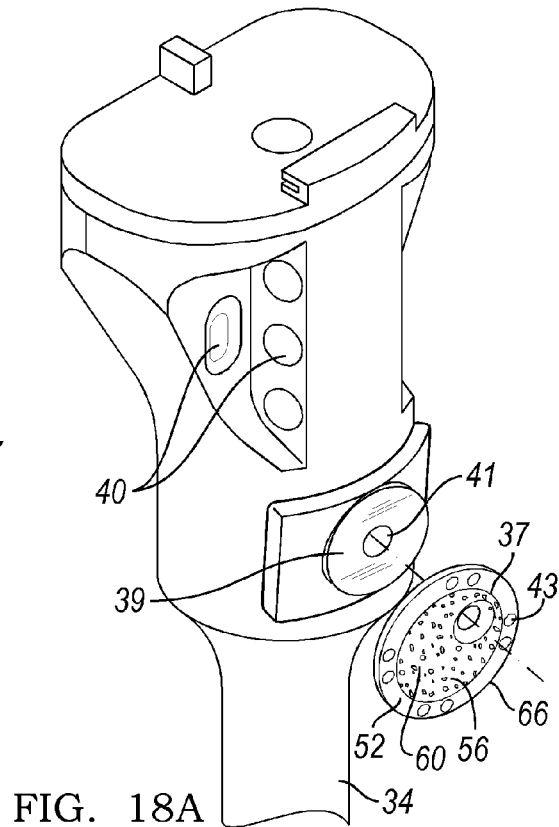


FIG. 18A

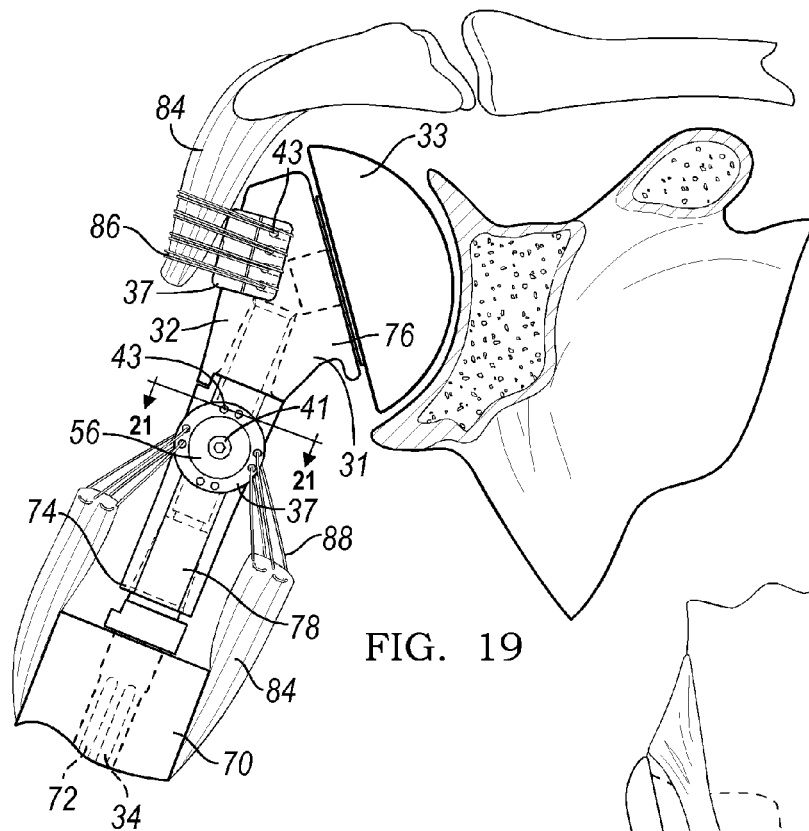


FIG. 19

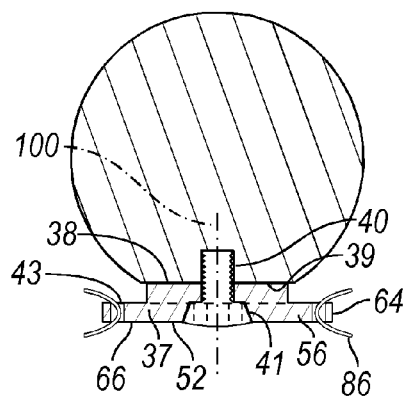


FIG. 21

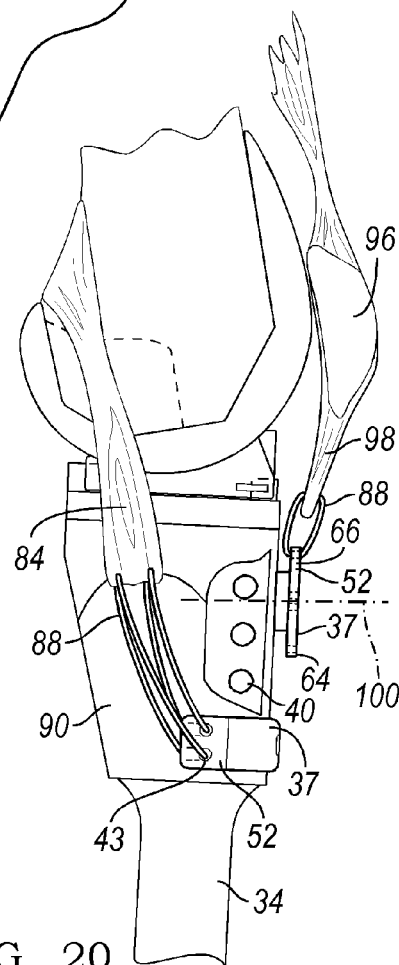


FIG. 20

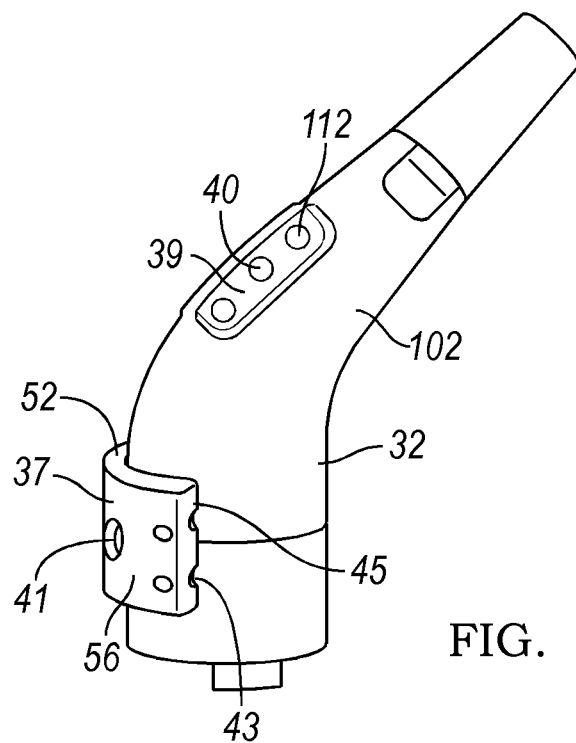


FIG. 22

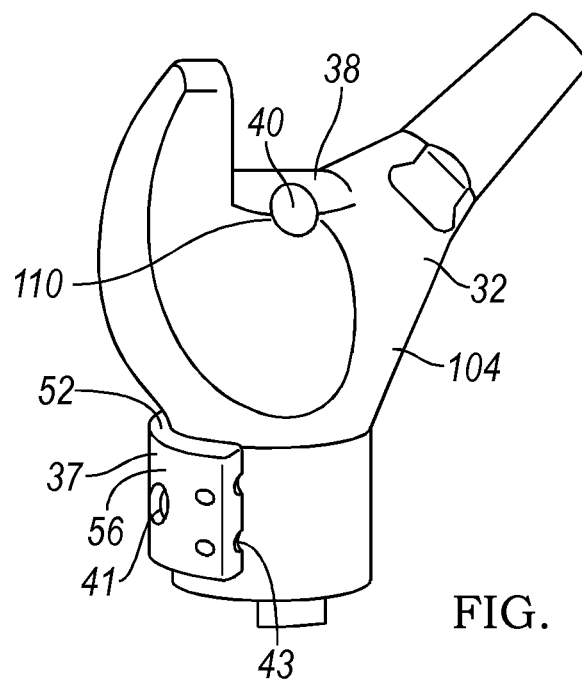


FIG. 23

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PROSTHETIC HAVING A MODULAR SOFT TISSUE FIXATION MECHANISM

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/085,538 filed on Apr. 13, 2011, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/323,666, filed on Apr. 13, 2010. The entire disclosure of each of the above applications is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

FIELD

This invention relates generally to a method and apparatus for use in orthopedic surgery and, more particularly, to a method and apparatus for providing a prosthesis having a modular soft tissue coupling mechanism. The soft tissue coupling mechanism is a member configured to be optionally and selectively coupled to the implant and includes a fixation flange and porous metal portion, both of which are configured of being coupled to soft tissues.

BACKGROUND

It is generally known in the art to provide prostheses that replace or reinforce various portions of bone during an orthopedic surgical procedure. However, the current prior art prostheses along with the associated surgical components and instruments utilized during orthopedic surgery may suffer from many disadvantages.

For example, because the extent of degradation is not always evident until during the surgery, extensive bone resection may be necessary. Additionally, etiologies such as bone tumors or those requiring revision of an implanted joint require significant bone removal which may remove soft tissue fixation sites. In these cases, soft tissue fixation to the prosthesis may or may not be necessary. To provide for soft tissue attachment, some replacement joint components provide an integral flange configured to accept soft tissue attached to a lateral surface of the prosthetic replacement joint head. These fixed fixation flanges, however, may not provide the proper locational adaptivity needed during the orthopedic surgical procedure and leave the surgeon with little flexibility or no options as to soft tissue attachment.

An example of an orthopedic transplant is a shoulder prosthesis which typically comprises a humeral component and a glenoid component. The humeral component and the glenoid component are designed to be surgically attached to the distal end of the humerus and the scapula, respectively. The humeral component is further designed to cooperate with the scapula component in simulating the articulating motion of an anatomical shoulder joint.

Motion of a natural shoulder is kinematically complex. During a relatively broad range of flexion and extension, the articular or bearing surfaces of a natural shoulder experience rotation, medial and lateral angulation, translation, rollback and sliding. Shoulder joint prostheses, in combination with ligaments and muscles, attempt to duplicate this natural shoulder motion, as well as absorb and control forces generated during the range of motion. Depending on the degree of damage or deterioration of the shoulder tendons and ligaments, however, it may be necessary for a shoulder joint prosthesis to eliminate one or more of these motions in order to provide adequate stability.

What is needed then is a prosthesis and associated surgical components for use in orthopedic surgery which does not

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suffer from the above-mentioned disadvantages. This in turn, will provide a prosthesis which is stable and secure and increases the overall flexibility for a surgeon to fix soft tissues. It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide such a prosthesis and associated surgical components for use in orthopedic surgery.

SUMMARY

This section provides a general summary of the disclosure, and is not a comprehensive disclosure of its full scope or all of its features.

In accordance with the present teachings, an apparatus and method for providing a prosthetic having a modular soft tissue attachment mechanism is disclosed. The apparatus and method employ modular soft tissue attachment mechanisms having porous metal pads for use during the orthopedic surgical procedure.

In one embodiment, an orthopedic implant has a body that is at least partially implantable within a bone. A mechanism for coupling soft tissue to the body is provided. The mechanism for coupling soft tissue to the body has an attachment member operable to prevent movement of the coupling mechanism with respect to the body. The mechanism defines a suture accepting aperture configured to couple soft tissue to the mechanism and has a porous soft tissue engaging surface.

A method for implanting a shoulder prosthetic is further disclosed. The method includes selecting an appropriately sized prosthetic component. Next, a determination is made if soft tissue fixation to the implant is necessary. Should it be necessary to couple soft tissue to the implant, a soft tissue fixation having a porous metal component is attached to the implant. The implant is subsequently implanted. Soft tissue is positioned adjacent to the porous metal component and allowed to grow into the porous metal component.

Use of the present teachings provides an apparatus and method for providing a prosthetic having a modular soft tissue attachment mechanism for use during an orthopedic surgical procedure. As a result, the aforementioned disadvantages associated with the currently available prostheses and associated surgical components have been substantially reduced or eliminated.

Further areas of applicability will become apparent from the description provided herein. The description and specific examples in this summary are intended for purposes of illustration only and are not intended to limit the scope of the present disclosure.

DRAWINGS

The drawings described herein are for illustrative purposes only of selected embodiments and not all possible implementations, and are not intended to limit the scope of the present disclosure.

FIGS. 1A and 1B are an assembled view of the prosthetic component according to the teachings of one embodiment;

FIG. 2 is a side view of an alternate base humeral component with humeral head according to the present teachings;

FIG. 3 represents an alternate view of the humeral component shown in FIG. 2 according to the present teachings;

FIG. 4 represents a soft tissue fixation member coupled to the humeral component of the present teachings;

FIGS. 5-7 represent perspective, side and rear views of a prosthetic according to the present teachings;

FIGS. 8A-8C represent the top, end and side views of a soft tissue fixation member according to the present teachings;

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FIG. 9 represents a sectional view of the soft tissue coupling member of FIGS. 8A-8C;

FIGS. 10A and 10B represent soft tissue coupling mechanisms according to the present teachings;

FIG. 11 represents a perspective view of the soft tissue coupling mechanism without the porous coupling member;

FIG. 12 represents a side view of the soft tissue coupling member of FIG. 10B;

FIG. 13 represents the coupling of the soft tissue coupling mechanism to a prosthetic stem;

FIG. 14 represents a subassembly of soft tissue coupling mechanisms coupled to a head fixation member;

FIG. 15 represents the coupling of soft tissue coupling members to a femoral component;

FIG. 16 represents an alternate soft tissue coupling member;

FIG. 17 represents an exploded view of the soft tissue coupling member being fixed to a coupling surface on a prosthetic;

FIGS. 18A and 18B represent the coupling of the soft tissue coupling member according to FIG. 16 to a femoral prosthetic;

FIG. 19 represents an implanted view of the soft tissue coupling member according to FIG. 16 coupled to a humeral prosthetic;

FIG. 20 represents the use of the soft tissue coupling member on a femoral prosthetic;

FIG. 21 represent a cross-sectional view of the soft tissue coupling member coupled to the humeral stem of FIG. 19; and

FIGS. 22 and 23 represent femoral head coupling members having soft tissue coupling mechanisms according to the present teachings.

Corresponding reference numerals indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Example embodiments will now be described more fully with reference to the accompanying drawings. FIGS. 1A and 1B represent components used in a shoulder arthroplasty according to the present teachings. As shown, a modular humeral component 31 has a base member 32, and a head member 33 having an articulating bearing surface. Optionally, the modular humeral component 31 can have a fixation stem 34 (see FIG. 1A) or an elbow prosthesis 35 (see FIG. 1B).

The base member 32 is configured to be coupled to the fixation stem 34 and head 33 using coupling tapers (not shown). The fixation stem 34 can be used to attach the modular humeral component 31 to a resected bone of the humerus.

If a total humeral replacement is being conducted, the modular humeral component 31 shown in FIG. 1B can be used. The elbow prosthesis 35 can be coupled to a fixation stem 34 using locking tapers or other suitable coupling mechanism.

Attached to the modular humeral component 31 is a plurality of modular soft tissue attachment pads 37. The soft tissue attachment pads 37 have a coupling surface 38 which is configured to be selectively coupled to a coupling surface 39 on the modular humeral component 31. In this regard, the modular humeral component 31 has a plurality of apertures 40 defined at various locations on the surface of the modular humeral component 31 therein. The apertures 40 are configured to accept coupling fasteners which are configured to couple the soft tissue attachment pads 37 to specific locations on the modular humeral component 31.

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The soft tissue attachment pads 37 function as soft tissue coupling locations. In this regard, the soft tissue attachment pads 37 define a bore 43 configured to accept a suture engaged with soft tissue such as a tendon, ligament or muscle. In practice, after the modular humeral component 31 is coupled to the patient, soft tissue is coupled to the soft tissue attachment pads 37 by passing the suture through the soft tissue and passing the suture through the bore 43. The soft tissue can then be positioned so that the soft tissue is in contact with a porous metal surface. The soft tissue then grows into the porous metal surface, aiding in fixation.

FIGS. 2-4 represent the base member 32 having associated soft tissue attachment pads 37. As shown in FIG. 3, soft tissue attachment pads 37 define a fastener accepting through bore 41. The through bore 41 is configured to be aligned with a bore 40 defined in the base member 32.

FIGS. 5-7 represent perspective, rear and front views of the base member 32. Defined in the base member 32 are coupling tapers 50 which are used to couple the base portion to the head or the fixation stem. Also defined in the base member 32 is a plurality of threaded fastener accepting bores 41. These fastener accepting bores 41 can be generally located at soft tissue accepting locations. It is, of course, envisioned that a physician may need to fix soft tissue to non-traditional locations due to damage to the soft tissue.

FIGS. 8A through 8C represent top, end and side views of the soft tissue attachment mechanism. The soft tissue attachment pads 37 have a plate 52 made of a biocompatible material such as titanium. Disposed on the plate is a pad of porous metal material 53 such as Regenerex. Defined through the porous metal pad 56 and plate 52 is the fastener accepting aperture.

As best seen in FIG. 8C, disposed on proximal and distal ends are a pair of flanges 54 which define suture accepting bores 43. In use, a suture is passed through soft tissue and then passed through the suture accepting bore 43 of the pair of flanges 54. The suture accepting bores 43 are shown as being generally parallel to the center of curvature "C" of the coupling surface 38 of the soft tissue attachment pads 37. As described below, the suture accepting bores can be parallel to, skew or perpendicular to the coupling surface 38.

FIG. 9 represents a cross-sectional view of the soft tissue attachment pads 37. Shown is the plate 52 having the coupling surface 38 configured to mate against an implant or bone. Also shown is the porous metal pad 56 which functions as a site for ingrowth of the soft tissue.

FIGS. 10A and 10B represent alternate soft tissue attachment pads 37. As shown, the plate 52 can have varying axial lengths. Additionally shown is an alternate configuration for the suture accepting bores 43. The fastener accepting bore 41 can be angularly adjusted in a non-centered manner from one of the terminal end 45 of the soft tissue attachment pad 37. The suture accepting bores 43 are aligned so that at least a portion of the bore is disposed on a terminal end 45 of the soft tissue attachment pad 37 or plate 52. This allows the treating physician to couple the soft tissue attachment pad 37 to the prosthetic after the coupling thereto.

FIG. 11 represents the plate 52 for the soft tissue attachment pad 37. Shown is a notched surface 47 which is configured to accept the porous metal pad 56. Optionally, the notched surface 47 has a pair of terminal edges 49 which can define the depth of the porous metal pad 56. Porous metal pad 56 is a separate member which can be made of porous metal, porous coated metal or some biologic material. The porous metal pad 56 can be attached to plate 52 by cement, glue, weld, sintering, etc. Alternatively, the area defined by notched surface 47 can be filled with porous plasma spray. The metal

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pad 56 can have a porosity of about 70% and a pore size ranging from about 300-600 microns. This pore size can improve function in vivo. The open pores allow vascularization/angiogenesis and nutrient delivery which can be important for soft tissue in-growth or insertion. Traditional plasma

spray is not thought to provide these benefits. FIG. 12 represents a side view of the plate 52 shown in FIG. 11. Shown in the plate 52 is the defined fastener accepting bore 41. The bore 41 has a first portion with a generally cylindrical cross-section. Optionally, a fastener bearing surface 48 can be defined in a second portion of the bore 41. Also shown is a cross-section of the suture accepting bore 43. The suture accepting bore 43 has a curved surface 55 which is configured to reduce the risk of breakage of the suture. The bores 43 are positioned in a way which located one end of the bore 43 on an exterior curved surface of the soft tissue attachment pad 37. The other end of the bore can be formed in the terminal ends 45 of the soft tissue attachment pads 37.

As shown in FIGS. 13-15, the soft tissue attachment pads 37 according to FIGS. 8A-12 can be coupled to various locations on disparate portions of monolithic or modular prosthetic systems depending upon the need of the treating physician. The soft tissue attachment pads 37 can have varying thicknesses of axial length depending upon the need of the patient.

FIGS. 16-21 represent an alternate soft tissue attachment pad 37. The soft tissue attachment pads 37 can have a generally planar yet circular configuration. A central portion 60 of the soft tissue attachment pads 37 can support the porous metal pad 56. Disposed about the periphery 64 of the soft tissue attachment pads 37 is a rim 66 defining the plurality of suture accepting bore 43. As shown in FIG. 17, the soft tissue attachment pad 37 has a planar coupling surface 38 which can be coupled to a curved intermediate member 68. The curved intermediate member 68 has a planar bearing or coupling surface 39 which mates with the planar coupling surface 38 on the soft tissue attachment pad 37. The curved intermediate member 68 has a curved surface configured to couple to a curved surface on the prosthetic.

As shown in FIGS. 18A and 18B, the soft tissue attachment pad 37 can be coupled either to a planar or a curved surface. By rotation of the soft tissue attachment pad 37 about the fastener accepting bore 41, the location of the suture accepting bores 43 can be adjusted. By offsetting the bore 41, rotation of the soft tissue attachment pad 37 will translate the location of the suture accepting bores 43 with respect to the prosthetic.

FIGS. 19 and 20 represent implanted prosthetics 70 and 90 according to the present teachings. As shown, both the soft tissue attachment pads according to FIGS. 1-10A and FIGS. 6 and 7 can be used with the same implant. FIG. 19 represents a humeral prosthetic 70 having a humeral fixation stem 72, an intermediate portion 74, a head coupling portion 76, and head 33. As is known, the portions of the implant can be coupled together using locking tapers 78. The use of the soft tissue attachment pads 76 allows for a treating physician to selectively attach soft tissue to various locations on the prosthetic 70. Optionally, in instances where the soft tissue is not an appropriate length due to degradation, the soft tissue can be coupled to the prosthetic at a location which does not represent the normal location of soft tissue attachment to the bone. Multiple sutures 86 can be used to hold soft tissue at a location adjacent to the porous metal portion of the soft tissue attachment pad 37. Optionally, the loops of sutures 88 can be arranged to couple the soft tissue 84 to the prosthetic 70.

FIG. 20 represents a femoral prosthetic 90 with associated soft tissue coupling pads according to the present teachings.

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Shown is the coupling of pads having both planar and curved coupling surfaces 38. After implantation of the prosthetic 90 into the resected femur 94, the soft tissue associated with the patella 96 can be coupled to the prosthetic 90. Depending on the amount of damage, the soft tissue 98 can be placed in direct contact with the soft tissue attachment pad 37 or can be disassociated and coupled with suture loops 88 or artificial graft material.

As briefly described above and shown in FIG. 21, the soft tissue attachment pads 37 can be rotatably positioned about an axis 100 generally disposed along the axis of the coupling bore 41. After implantation of the prosthetic 70, a treating physician can couple the soft tissue attachment pad 37 to the prosthetic 70 using a coupling mechanism such as a threaded fastener. It is envisioned the soft tissue attachment pads 37 can also be attached using other mechanism such as a locking taper, deformable flanges or translatable members.

FIGS. 22 and 23 represent alternate components 102 and 104 of a prosthetic. These intermediate femoral members are shown to illustrate some of the various surfaces which can be utilized to couple the soft tissue attachment pads 37 to the prosthetic. In this regard, it is envisioned the soft tissue attachment pads 37 can be configured to be coupled to convex rail features 110 (see FIG. 1B), planar features (see FIG. 21) or concave channel features 112 (see FIG. 22). The variety of coupling surfaces 38, 39 and locations is intended to give the treating physician maximum flexibility in the operating theater.

While the soft tissue attachment pad 37 is shown throughout the application as a cylindrical surface disposed on an implant positioned within an intermedullary canal, it should be noted that the soft tissue fixation members can further take the form of a plate coupled to either a cylindrical or flat baseplate member. In this regard, the soft tissue fixation mechanisms can take the form of a plate member capable of accepting a suture or suture anchor. Additionally, the prosthetic need not be associated with a joint, e.g. an intercalary member.

Additionally, the soft tissue fixation mechanisms can be adjustably positioned on the prosthetic in one or more fixation areas. In this regard, multiple soft tissue fixation mechanisms can be located on multiple locations of a single implant. While the soft tissue fixation mechanisms is shown on a modular prosthetic, those skilled in the art will recognize that only the soft tissue fixation mechanisms need be modular and that the soft tissue fixation mechanisms can be fixed to any single piece prosthetic device. It is envisioned that a kit can be formed utilizing various sized prosthetic as well as various types and sizes of soft tissue coupling mechanisms.

Example embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough, and will fully convey the scope to those who are skilled in the art. Numerous specific details are set forth such as examples of specific components, devices, and methods, to provide a thorough understanding of embodiments of the present disclosure. It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that specific details need not be employed, that example embodiments may be embodied in many different forms and that neither should be construed to limit the scope of the disclosure. In some example embodiments, well-known processes, well-known device structures, and well-known technologies are not described in detail.

The terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular example embodiments only and is not intended to be limiting. As used herein, the singular forms "a," "an," and "the" may be intended to include the plural forms as well, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. The terms "comprises," "comprising," "including," and "having," are

inclusive and therefore specify the presence of stated features, integers, steps, operations, elements, and/or components, but do not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, integers, steps, operations, elements, components, and/or groups thereof. The method steps, processes, and operations described herein are not to be construed as necessarily requiring their performance in the particular order discussed or illustrated, unless specifically identified as an order of performance. It is also to be understood that additional or alternative steps may be employed.

When an element or layer is referred to as being “on,” “engaged to,” “connected to,” or “coupled to” another element or layer, it may be directly on, engaged, connected or coupled to the other element or layer, or intervening elements or layers may be present. In contrast, when an element is referred to as being “directly on,” “directly engaged to,” “directly connected to,” or “directly coupled to” another element or layer, there may be no intervening elements or layers present. Other words used to describe the relationship between elements should be interpreted in a like fashion (e.g., “between” versus “directly between,” “adjacent” versus “directly adjacent,” etc.). As used herein, the term “and/or” includes any and all combinations of one or more of the associated listed items.

Although the terms first, second, third, etc. may be used herein to describe various elements, components, regions, layers and/or sections, these elements, components, regions, layers and/or sections should not be limited by these terms. These terms may be only used to distinguish one element, component, region, layer or section from another region, layer or section. Terms such as “first,” “second,” and other numerical terms when used herein do not imply a sequence or order unless clearly indicated by the context. Thus, a first element, component, region, layer or section discussed below could be termed a second element, component, region, layer or section without departing from the teachings of the example embodiments.

Spatially relative terms, such as “inner,” “outer,” “beneath,” “below,” “lower,” “above,” “upper,” and the like, may be used herein for ease of description to describe one element or feature’s relationship to another element(s) or feature(s) as illustrated in the figures. Spatially relative terms may be intended to encompass different orientations of the device in use or operation in addition to the orientation depicted in the figures. For example, if the device in the figures is turned over, elements described as “below” or “beneath” other elements or features would then be oriented “above” the other elements or features. Thus, the example term “below” can encompass both an orientation of above and below. The device may be otherwise oriented (rotated 90 degrees or at other orientations) and the spatially relative descriptors used herein interpreted accordingly.

The description of the invention is merely exemplary embodiments in the present invention. One skilled in the art would readily recognize from such discussion and from accompanying drawings and claims that various changes, modifications, variations may be made therein without the spirit and scope of the invention. For example, while the soft tissue fixation mechanisms are shown being coupled to a humeral, femoral, or tibial implant, the soft tissue fixation

mechanism can equally be applied to other joint implants such as, but not limited to, knees and elbows, and for whole bone replacement.

The foregoing description of the embodiments has been provided for purposes of illustration and description. It is not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the invention. Individual elements or features of a particular embodiment are generally not limited to that particular embodiment, but, where applicable, are interchangeable and can be used in a selected embodiment, even if not specifically shown or described. The same may also be varied in many ways. Such variations are not to be regarded as a departure from the invention, and all such modifications are intended to be included within the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for implanting an orthopedic prosthetic comprising:

selecting an appropriately sized prosthetic;

determining if soft tissue fixation to the prosthetic is necessary;

attaching a soft tissue attachment pad to the prosthetic such that a plate of the soft tissue attachment pad faces a surface of the prosthetic and a separate porous metal pad attached to the plate faces away from the surface of the prosthetic, wherein the plate of the soft tissue attachment pad defines a notched recess disposed between opposing proximal and distal flanges and configured to accept the porous metal pad;

implanting said prosthetic; and

coupling soft tissue to the porous metal pad.

2. The method according to claim 1 further comprising:

passing a suture through the soft tissue; and

passing the suture through an aperture defined in the soft tissue attachment pad.

3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the orthopedic prosthetic comprises:

an implant having an articulating surface and a bone attachment region forming a complete functional implant configured to be implanted into a patient.

4. The method according to claim 3 wherein the complete functional implant is configured to be implanted into the bone in a first functional configuration with the soft tissue attachment pad and in a second functional configuration without the soft tissue attachment pad.

5. The method according to claim 2, wherein passing the suture through an aperture defined in the soft tissue attachment pad positions the soft tissue adjacent to the porous metal pad.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the soft tissue attachment pad is operable to be attached to the implant with a locking mechanism, said locking mechanism including a fastener disposed through a first fastener accepting bore defined in the soft tissue attachment pad and coupled to a second fastener accepting bore defined in the bone attachment region of the implant, wherein said locking mechanism is configured to prevent movement of the soft tissue attachment pad with respect to the implant.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein attaching the soft tissue attachment pad to the prosthetic is performed after implanting the prosthetic.

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